

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Thomas O. Mitchell on June 17, 2008. Support for the following amendment to claim 1 can be found in Figure 1 and in paragraphs [0014] and [0016] of the present specification.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 1, line 4, please insert after the phrase "locating the container" the phrase -- with the chemical in the wellbore, wherein said container in the wellbore is suspended --.

Reasons for Allowance

2. The following is Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior art of record does not teach or suggest a method for delivering slow-release chemicals into a subterranean formation that comprises adding a slow-release chemical to a mesh-like basket container and placing said container including the chemical into a well bore so that the container in the wellbore is suspended in the path of produced fluids, wherein

said slow-release chemical is held in the basket container by the mesh, and wherein said container is re-usable.

3. The closest prior art is USPN 2,760,584 to Rohrback which discloses adding a meshed bag to a "container" fixed to the production tubing wherein the bag can contain a chemical. However, Rohrback does not teach or suggest a method of delivering a slow-release chemical to a wellbore comprising adding the chemical to a *meshed container*, placing said meshed container *including* the chemical into the wellbore so that the container is *suspended* in the path of produced fluids of the wellbore, and wherein said container is *re-usable*. (See Fig. 1 of the present specification and Fig. 1 in Rohrback)

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John J. Figueroa whose telephone number is (571) 272-8916. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 8:00-6:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Randy Gulakowski can be reached on (571) 272-1302. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

JJF/RAG

/Randy Gulakowski/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1796